

## Testimony in support of HB 6599: An Act Concerning Discrimination

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. My name is Anne Faith Beon, and I am here to ask for passage of HB-6599; an act concerning discrimination. I am one of many Transsexuals who live within your districts. We live and work as anyone else. Unlike the rest, we have little protection under present law against discrimination. I spent last week in Washington DC with Important leaders of the Transgender community. And it was there that we were briefed by The Justice Department on the amount of cases of discrimination, hate crimes, even murders of those like us throughout the United States. Now is the time for Connecticut to join the 12 other states (and 100 major cities) and enact this legislation, and give us the same protection that the rest of our Countries' population enjoys. At one time we hid behind closer doors, living in shame, unable to understand why we were as we were... Today Modern Medical research has given us both the answer as to why we were Born This Way and a path to living a life true to ourselves. It is a hard, expensive and often dangerous path, but it is ours. What we need from our representatives is the legal protection given all other Connecticut residents. Time has changed things radically for us as Trans Folk. We are living out and proud of who we are. There are many more of us than you may think, we exist in all cultures, and throughout human history. Today in our United States we have Transgender Support groups in High schools, Transgendered children in our grammar schools and now preschools for Non Gender Conforming toddlers. We are here for them. We are here for the hundreds if not thousands of young Connecticut residents who face bullying, physical abuse, and discrimination for no fault of their own. I ask you in their name to extend this protection. I would be happy to answer any questions or give any explanation you may require. And again, thank you for the opportunity to have my voice heard.

- ANNE BEON